

Message Text

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44

ORIGIN OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSF-02 NASA-02 ACDA-10 /072 R

DRAFTED BY OES/APT/SA:RGMORRIS:MCM

APPROVED BY OES/APT/SA:RGMORRIS

EUR/NE:CSCHALLER

NSF:DPEACOCK

PM/ISO:FFLEMINGS (INFO)

DOD/OASD(INL):TBURROWES (INFO)

USAF/SAF/IA:COL.PLOWDEN (INFO)

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O 011536Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

INFO CSAF WASH DC IMMEDIATE

AFCRL HANSCOM AFB IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 181748

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TPHY,OCLR,DA,GL

SUBJECT: BALLOON FLIGHTS FROM GREENLAND

REF: A. COPENHAGEN 2177; B. STATE A-4600

1. DEPARTMENT DEEPLY APPRECIATES EMBASSY EFFORTS TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION TO FLY EXPERIMENTAL BALLOONS FROM GREENLAND IN AUGUST. TARDY FILING OF REQUEST DUE TO PERSONNEL SHIFTS AT FOUNDATION. INFORMATION REQUESTED REF A FOLLOWS:

A. BALLOON SIZE 7000 CUBIC METERS; 30 METERS DIAMETER
BALLOON WEIGHT 27 KGMS.

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PAYLOAD SIZE 0.6 M X 0.4 M X 0.36 M

PAYLOAD WEIGHT 14 KGMS.

B. THE PAYLOADS WILL CONSIST OF LIGHTWEIGHT ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENTATION USING SOLIDSTATE COMPONENTS ENCASED IN POLYSTYROFOAM.

C. HELIUM GAS WILL FILL THE BALLOON.

D. FLIGHT CHARACTERISTICS WILL BE 2 1/2 HOURS ASCENT TO AN ALTITUDE OF 36 KMS. AFTER FLOATING AT 36 KMS FOR A

MINIMUM OF 20 HOURS, AND A MAXIMUM OF 36 HOURS IN LIGHT WESTERLY WINDS, THE BALLOON AND PACKAGE WILL BE CUT DOWN AND FREE FALL INTO THE OCEAN WITHIN A 800 KM RADIUS OF LAUNCH SITE AT SONDRÉ STROMFJORD U.S. AIR BASE (SAB). NO CHASE PLANES WILL BE USED IN THESE OPERATIONS.

E. CUT DOWN WILL BE BY TIMED SQUIB WHICH WILL RELEASE THE PAYLOAD AND DESTROY THE BALLOON'S INTEGRITY BY MEANS OF A RIP PANEL. A SECOND INDEPENDENT SQUIB WILL PROVIDE A BACKUP CUT DOWN.

SAFETY DEVICES ON THESE FLIGHTS INCLUDE A FLASHING RED LIGHT FOR ASCENT AND DESCENT THROUGH AIRCRAFT ALTITUDES AND ALUMINUM FOIL FOR RADAR REFLECTION FOR TRACKING PURPOSES.

F. RADIO FREQUENCY WILL BE AS PREVIOUSLY USED, NAMELY, 88 MC/S.

G. DANISH AUTHORITIES WILL RECEIVE NOTEM NOTICES BY WAY OF SONDRÉ STROMFJORD TRAFFIC CONTROLLER.

2. PLEASE TRANSMIT ABOVE TO MINISTRY OF GREENLAND IN HOPE PROJECT MAY STILL BE CONSIDERED FAVORABLY. INGERSOLL

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